

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A method for printing text, the method comprising:  
2                 (a)     capturing audio data;  
3                 (b)     filtering the captured audio data to extract text data and print  
4     commands;  
5                 (c)     converting the text data to electronic text;  
6                 (d)     accumulating the electronic text in a text buffer;  
7                 (e)     repeating steps (a) through (d) until a print command is  
8     extracted from the audio data;  
9                 (f)     translating the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer into  
10    a rendered document; and,  
11                (g)     printing the rendered document.

1           2.     The method of claim 1 wherein capturing the audio data includes:  
2                 (a)     sensing the audio data;  
3                 (b)     generating an analog audio data signal in response to the  
4     sensed audio data; and,  
5                 (c)     digitizing the analog audio data signal into captured audio data.

1           3.     The method of claim 1 wherein filtering the captured audio data  
2     includes:  
3                 (a)     comparing the captured audio data with text data selection  
4     criteria and print command selection criteria;  
5                 (b)     extracting, as a print command, the captured audio data  
6     meeting the print command selection criteria; and,  
7                 (c)     extracting, as text data, the captured audio data meeting the  
8     text data selection criteria.

1           4.     The method of claim 1 wherein converting the text data to electronic  
2     text includes:

- 3 (a) inputting the text data into a speech recognition module; and,  
4 (b) receiving electronic text from the speech recognition module.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein accumulating the electronic text  
2 includes appending the electronic text to contents of the text buffer.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein translating the electronic text includes:  
2 (a) combining the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer with  
3 a form template; and,  
4 (b) translating the electronic text with the form template into the  
5 rendered document.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein translating the electronic text includes  
2 translating the electronic text into a form ready for printing.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein printing the rendered document  
2 includes reproducing the rendered document onto print media.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further including purging the text buffer after  
2 printing the rendered document.

1 10. A system for printing text, the system comprising:  
2 (a) an audio digitizer configured to capture audio data;  
3 (b) an audio filter configured to filter captured audio data to extract  
4 text data and print commands;  
5 (c) a speech recognition module configured to convert text data to  
6 electronic text;  
7 (d) a text buffer configured to accumulate the electronic text;  
8 (e) a rendering subsystem configured to translate the electronic  
9 text accumulated in the text buffer into a rendered document; and,  
10 (f) an imaging subsystem configured to print the rendered  
11 document.

1 11. The system of claim 10 wherein the audio digitizer includes:  
2 (a) a microphone configured to sense audio data and generate an  
3 analog audio data signal in response to the sensed audio data; and,  
4 (b) an analog to digital converter configured to digitize the analog  
5 audio data signal into captured audio data.

1 12. The system of claim 10 wherein the audio filter includes:  
2 (a) a selection criteria database including text data selection criteria  
3 and print command selection criteria;  
4 (b) a comparator configured to compare captured audio data with  
5 the text data selection criteria and the print command selection criteria;  
6 (c) a print command extractor configured to extract, as a print  
7 command, captured audio data meeting the print command selection criteria; and,  
8 (d) a text data extractor configured to extract, as text data,  
9 captured audio data meeting the text data selection criteria.

1 13. The system of claim 10 further including a buffer cleaner configured to  
2 purge the text buffer after printing the rendered document.

1 14. A program storage system readable by a computer, tangibly  
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to perform  
3 method steps for printing text, the method steps comprising:  
4 (a) capturing audio data;  
5 (b) filtering the captured audio data to extract text data and print  
6 commands;  
7 (c) converting the text data to electronic text;  
8 (d) accumulating the electronic text in a text buffer;  
9 (e) repeating steps (a) through (d) until a print command is  
10 extracted from the audio data;  
11 (f) translating the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer into  
12 a rendered document; and,  
13 (g) printing the rendered document.

1           15.     The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of  
2 capturing the audio data includes:  
3           (a)     sensing the audio data;  
4           (b)     generating an analog audio data signal in response to the  
5 sensed audio data; and,  
6           (c)     digitizing the analog audio data signal into captured audio data.

1           16.     The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of  
2 filtering the captured audio data includes:  
3           (a)     comparing the captured audio data with text data selection  
4 criteria and print command selection criteria;  
5           (b)     extracting, as a print command, the captured audio data  
6 meeting the print command selection criteria; and,  
7           (c)     extracting, as text data, the captured audio data meeting the  
8 text data selection criteria.

1           17.     The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of  
2 converting the text data to electronic text includes:  
3           (a)     inputting the text data into a speech recognition module; and,  
4           (b)     receiving electronic text from the speech recognition module.

1           18.     The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of  
2 translating the electronic text includes:  
3           (a)     combining the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer with  
4 a form template; and,  
5           (b)     translating the electronic text with the form template into the  
6 rendered document.

1           19.     The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of  
2 printing the rendered document includes reproducing the rendered document onto  
3 print media.

- 1        20.    The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method steps  
2    further include purging the text buffer after printing the rendered document.

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